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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Twenty-Sixth Annual Session

OF THE

FARMERS' STATE ALLIANCE

OF

NORTH CAROLINA

Held Near Hillsboro, N. C.

AUGUST 13-14, 1912

HON. JOHN M. MITCHELL, President, Goldsboro, N. C.

H. E. THOMPSON, Sec-Treas. S. B. A., Stantonsburg, N. C.



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List of Officers

1912

President, John M. Mitchell.....	Goldsboro, N. C.
Vice-President, J. H. Evans.....	Harrellsville, N. C.
Secretary-Treasurer and S. B. A., H. E. Thompson....	Stantonsburg
Lecturer, H. M. Cates.....	Graham, N. C., Route No. 2
Chaplain, Rev. C. C. Williams	Spring Hope, N. C., Route 2
Steward, J. C. Bain	Wade, N. C.
Sergant at Arms, H. H. Thompson	Hillsboro, N. C.
Door Keeper, Geo. T. Lane	Greensboro, N. C.

Executive Committee

For Current Year

Prof. John Graham, Chairman	Warrenton, N. C.
J. W. Denmark	Raleigh, N. C.
T. J. Oldham.....	R. F. D. 2, Mebane, N. C.
John A. Dayis	Tarboro, N. C.
Chas. F. Cates	Mebane, N. C.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Calling Roll by Counties, each delegate answering to his name, who will thereupon present his credentials to the Secretary.
2. Reading of the Daily Minutes.
3. Appointment of Committees
4. Report of Officers.
5. Report of Committees.
6. Motions and Resolutions.
7. Unfinished Business.
8. Election of Officers.
9. Installation of Officers.

Proceedings

Alliance Headquarters, Hillsboro, N. C., August 13-14, 1912.

The 26th Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Farmers State Alliance convened at headquarters near Hillsboro, N. C., on August 13th, 1912 and was called to order by President John M. Mitchell promptly at 12 o'clock M..

The alliance was then opened in due form after which the Secretary called the roll of Counties and the following delegates responded:

Alamance—Chas. F. Cates.

Bertie—W. A. Capehart and Eddie Cullipher, Alternates,
O. F. White, Asa White and W. Evans.

Cumberland—S. J. McLaurin, Alternate T. A. Geddie.

Edgecombe—C. B. Barnes.

Franklin—Rev. C. C. Williams.

Guilford—D. A. Montgomery, Alternate Geo. T. Lane.

Hertford—J. H. Evans.

Johnston—H. C. Williams, Alternate Moses Creech.

Lincoln—W. A. Graham.

Martin—W. J. Robuck.

Orange—P. M. Sykes, Alternate H. H. Thompson.

Rowan—T. P. Johnston.

Wayne—W. H. Neal, Alternate, B. R. Edgerton.

Warren—John Graham.

Wake—J. W. Denmark.

Wilson—J. A. McKeel.

Dinner being announced the Alliance took a recess till
1:30 p. m.

Afternoon Session.

Promptly at 1:30 the President called the Alliance to order and announced the appointment of the following Committees:

Constitution and By-Laws: John Graham, B. R. Edgerton and H. E. Thompson.

Business Agency: Eddie Cullipher, W. H. Neal Moses Creech.

Organ: J. A. Davis, J. H. Evans, J. C. Bain, W. A. Capehart and H. C. Williams.

Resolutions: Chas. F. Cates, J. E. Peterson, D. A. Montgomery, W. J. Robuck and T. A. Geddie.

Education: John Graham, J. A. McKeel, S. J. McLaurin, C. B. Barnes.

Lecturing—Geo. T. Lane, T. P. Johnston, P. M. Sykes, O. F. White.

The President then delivered his annual address as follows:

Brethren of the North Carolina Farmers Alliance:

In these times of progressive methods, ideas and conditions, it becomes more important than ever that the farmer and the working classes of all conditions, should keep abreast of the times. We should educate the masses as quickly and as steadily as possible. The young by striving to make it possible that they should have the convenience of a good public school, with practical common sense teachers, for as long a term as six months. We should stand for a public school system that makes it binding to provide the means for these schools. Also make it binding that the children shall be made to take advantage of them. Our grand old State is an agricultural State, and we believe that our boys and girls should be taught more practical farming and housekeeping. As to educating those now who are past school age and are upon the farm, we should encourage them to take advantage of the work of our agricultural department, for I say, without the fear of contradiction, it is the best equipped, studious and practical in the South. In the same phrase I will add, the A. and H. College, who is pulling in double harness with any thing the department

does. They are not only striving to educate the older farmer by the institute work, and agricultural train, but they have five test farms located in different parts of the State on typical soil of that section. They do not stop with them but they are taking to your doors small demonstration farms all over North Carolina, and I insist brethren, as an organization we should give them our best efforts and hearty support.

Rural Life.

I believe it is our fault as a class that so many of our people, especially the boys and girls are dissatisfied with our rural homes. We should make our homes more attractive by using more paint and white-wash, and by practicing the innocent amusements in and around the homes, that the young as well as the old care to indulge in. In this progressive age we cannot expect to satisfy and keep them unless we keep pace to that standard in proportion to other vocations of life. Learn them to respect rural life as a profession, instead of a continuous toil and burden. Teach them that the farm life is as honored profession as any in our State.

Now let me say that I believe, as an organization, we should give our hearty and co-operative support to good roads, believing it to be the second greatest awakening North Carolina will ever have, its first being education. As to our organization and its needs these thoughts are merely suggestions, our order has done well the past year, and considering its dynamic forces our organ has been one of these strongest forces. We believe there should be an active lecturer in the field for the next twelve months in the interest of the order, also in the interest of our paper, if it is to be maintained. As to our property with its inadequate income and enormous investment for just a meeting place once a year, it should be sold and the proceeds invested in a home where the returns to the order will be more than at present. As to co-operation with similar organizations of the State, we are in sympathy with them, but believe we should be working in closer union together. I believe plans can be perfected whereby our annual meetings can be held under the same roof; as to our principles and ideas they cannot be changed for better for the principles of all later

agricultural organizations have been planned after ours. They will stand all of the vicissitudes and storms that hath prevailed. Such principles, brethren cannot be erased by the cycle of time.

Now brethren, I hope our annual meeting may be profitable, wise and accomplish good. May we be guided by the Spirit of God, and may He take care of us during all of our undertakings.

The report of the Trustee of the Business Agency Fund was then read as follows:

Trustee of Business Agency Fund Report.

August 1, 1912.

Fund consists of: N. C. 4 per cent bonds	\$10,200.00	
Mortgage	7,218.00	
		<hr/>
		\$17,418.00
Last report bonds.....	\$12,000.00	
Sold bonds	1,800.00	
		<hr/>
Balance	\$10,200.00	
Sold as follows: One \$1000 bond.....		\$1,024.00
One \$500 bond		517.33
Three \$100 bonds		306.00
		<hr/>
		\$1,847.33
From earnings		31.83
		<hr/>
		\$1,879.13
Paid H. E. Thompson	\$1600.00	
Paid Note	250.00	
Paid interest	5.83	
		<hr/>
		\$1,855.83
Balance		23.30
March 1, 1912, Note Citizens National Bank....	\$200.00	
Interest to July 1, 1912.....		4.50
		<hr/>
		\$204.50
July 2, paid from sale of bonds.....	\$23.30	
From earnings	81.20	104.50
Balance		\$100.00
Interest to Jan. 1, 1913		\$3.00

Earnings 1911-12

Aug. 1, 1911 on hand.....	\$85.09
Jan. 1, 1912, Coupons.....	220.00
July, 1, 1912 Coupons.....	204.00

Total	\$509.09
Expenses to State Alliance	\$10.57
Salary	250.00
Postage and Stationery	1.10
Paid H. E. Thompson .. .	31.83
Paid H. E. Thompson.....	84.20
	\$377.70

August 1st Balance	\$131.39
Paid to H. E. Thompson, S. B. Agent:	
Sept. 14, 1911.....	\$500.00
Nov. 13.....	300.00
Mar. 1912.....	200.00
Mar. 30th .. .	500.00
June 24 .. .	300.00
	\$1,800.00

From: Sale of Bonds	\$1,600
Note .. .	200.00
	\$1,800.00

Respectfully submitted,

W. A. GRAHAM, Trustee.

August 1, 1912.

The report of the Business Manager of the Tar Heel Farmer was then read as follows:

Received for advertisements	\$6.00
Received for renewals .. .	54.50
Received for new subscribers	29.28
	\$89.78

Paid for postage.....	\$2.50
Taken up one check for postage on paper.....	\$1.00
To balance on hand.....	\$86.28
Total number of subscribers paid and unpaid.....	400

Yours most respectfully, ,

J. M. MITCHELL.

Brother T. B. Parker was then invited to address the Al-

liance which he did in a few well-chosen words of encouragement to the brethren.

H. E. Thompson, State Secretary-Treasurer and Business Agent then read his report as follows:

Financial Report of H. E. Thompson, Sec.-Treas. and S. B. A.

Balance on hand, August 1st, 1911.....	\$128.07
Fees and Dues	160.10
W. A. Graham, Trustee	1800.00
Virginia Carolina Chemical Company.....	537.25
All other sources	2661.50
	<hr/>
	\$5,286.92

Disbursements:

Tar Heel Farmer, Printing, Editing, Etc.,... ..	\$1,124.53
State Lecturer expenses, traveling, etc.....	86.45
State Sec. and S. B. A. salary.....	600.00
State Sec. Traveling, postage, supplies, etc.....	147.86
Executive Committee	98.30
Insurance on Headquarters	57.00
Taxes on Headquarters	42.14
Roofing on Headquarters	152.12
Meals for State Alliance (W. T. Reynolds & Son..	63.50
Expenses State Alliance Officers	16.55
Printing Minutes, Stationery, etc.	32.25
Sundry Merchandise Bills	2,695.36
Cash on hand	153.36
	<hr/>
	\$5,286.92

A resolution was then adopted ordering that the minutes of the first State Alliance Meeting be printed in regular form.

The report of the Executive Committee was then read as follows:

Report of Secretary-Treasurer and State Business Agent.

Brethren: On this, the 26th anniversary of our order, I beg leave to submit my annual report. In some sections of the State we have made considerable gains in membership while in others we have merely held our own—the field is broad and many sections are ripe, and with proper effort many can be garnered within the fold, therefore, I urge upon every delegate and all other members present upon their return to their respective homes to exert re-

newed energy to increase our membership. My financial reports as Sec-Treas. and State Business Agency are in the hands of the Executive Committee and will be included in their report. As your State Business Agent, I am glad to report that our volume of business has greatly increased and is open and ready for more extended usefulness to the brotherhood—although our profits to the Business Agency Fund has been small and not what I would wish it to be, but our future seems to beam more brightly and with proper encouragement will no doubt ere long prove remunerative to the organization.

Fraternally submitted,

H. E. THOMPSON, Sec.-Treas & S. B. A.

H. M. Cates, State Lecturer and Tar Heel Farmer Editor then read his report as follows:

To the Officers and members of the State Alliance of North Carolina, Greeting:

The undersigned, your State Lecturer and also Editor of our Organ, "The Tar Heel Farmer" beg leave to make the following report:

First, I am glad to say that our cause has gone forward this good year. We have not gained so much numerically speaking, but still many have been added to our roll and the principles of the alliance have been stamped deeper upon the hearts of our people and I am sure we have gained prestige before the world. We have realized that we have been sleeping upon our rights and privileges and have decided at last to wake up. It may seem indelicate in us to say so, but we give at least some of the credit to our organ and ask all our people, both saints and sinners, to rally around our standard bearer, The Tar Heel Farmer, and we promise you greater service next year whoever the leader may be.

We believe we stand today in sight of the greatest victory ever won by a farmers organization. If we succeed we save all that we have done in the past. If we fail we lose all in the past and hope for the future. Therefore let us take courage and go forward.

Fraternally,

H. M. CATES.

The Executive Committee Report.

Your Executive Committee beg leave to report that they have examined the books of the State Business Agent and Secretary-Treasurer, and Statement of the Trustees, all of which we have found correct.

There was a resolution passed at our last year's meeting "Empowering" your Executive Committee to lay off the land on the North side of the Hillsboro road into half acre and acre lots and offer the same for sale. Upon mature deliberation the committee decided that it would be unwise at this time to do so.

With reference to the resolution to lease headquarters' property for educational purposes, we have to report that no proposition has come before the Executive Committee looking to that end.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. DENMARK,
JOHN GRAHAM,
JOHN A. DAVIS,
T. J. OLDHAM,
H. E. THOMPSON,
Executive Committee.

Brother Davis, Chairman of the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws read their report recommending many amendments which were taken up and disposed of by sections which resulted in a sufficient number of changes to necessitate the printing of a new book of Constitution and By-Laws in which said amendments will be found.

The Alliance then took a recess till 7:30 p. m.

Night Session.

The Committee on Education then made their report as follows:

We, your committee on Education, respectfully recommend that the Legislature of North Carolina be petitioned to make such appropriation for public schools of North Carolina as will increase the public school term's being at least six months per annum regardless of all other State expenses and we further recommend that a general law be enacted requiring the County Commissioners of every county to bear the expenses for board and lodging incurred

by public school teachers while in attendance upon county institutes held under the direction of the proper authorities.

JOHN GRAHAM,
J. A. McKEEL,
S. J. Mc LAURIN,
C. B. BARNES.

The Organ Committee Reported as follows:

We, your Organ Committee beg leave to submit the following report:

We believe that the Tar Heel Farmer is the life of the Alliance, therefore recommend the continuance of the Tar Heel Farmer even though at a loss to the organization for the time being—but will redound to the upbuilding of the order in the distant future and recommend that every Sub Alliance be requested to appoint one member to act as a soliciting agent for the paper, thereby increasing its usefulness to the organization.

J. A. DAVIS,
J. C. BAIN,
W. A. CAPEHART,
H. C. WILLIAMS.

The Committee on Lecturing and Organ made their report an amendment to which was adopted as follows: That the salary of the Editor of the Tar Heel Farmer shall be \$25.00 per month and as Lecturer and organizer \$3.00 per day and expenses while thus engaged, amount of per diem and expenses not to exceed \$500.00 for the year.

The Committee on resolutions introduced the following which was adopted:

The President of this Alliance and the Executive Committee are hereby empowered and instructed to sell the headquarters' property at what they shall believe to be a reasonable price, and to invest the proceeds in real estate in the city of Raleigh, the building thereon or to be built to contain ample provision for the accommodation of the annual meeting of the State Alliance. This prop-

osition to be submitted to each sub-alliance before action by said committee.

Respectfully submitted:

C. H. CATES,
W. J. ROBUCK,
THOS. A. GEDDIE,
J. E. PETERSON.
D. A. MONTGOMERY.

The following resolution was then adopted:

The Farmers State Alliance of North Carolina now in session, August 13, 1912, send greetings to the National Forestry Assoeiation of the United States, and hereby wishes to co-operate with said forestry association and the North Carolina Association in all that they may undertake to do for the better conservation of the forestry and the re-foresting of the now waste and barren lands in North Carolina and urge all our people to lend a hand in this great work.

JOHN GRAHAM,
H. M. CATES,
J. C. BAIN,

Committee.

Brother J. M. Mitchell was re-elected Business Manager of the Tar Heel Farmer at a salary of \$50 per year and it was ordered that he be paid \$50 for last year's services.

Adjourned till 8 a. m.

Morning Session, August 14th.

The State Alliance was called to order by President Mitchell at 8 o'clock, after which the election of officers was taken up with the following result:

President—Hon. John M. Mitchell, Goldsboro.

Vice-President—J. H. Evans, Harrellsville.

Sec-Treas. and S. B. A., H. E. Thompson, Stantonsburg.

Lecturer—H. M. Cates, Graham, Route, No. 2.

Chaplain—Rev. C. C. Williams, Spring Hope, Route No. 2.

Steward—J. C. Bain, Wade.

Sergeant at Arms—H. H. Thompson, Hillsboro.

Door Keeper—Geo. T. Lane, Greensboro.

Executive Committee—Chas. F. Cates, Mebane.

Inasmuch as all officers were re-elected and have therefore been installed, the installation ceremony was dispensed with.

Adjournment for dinner.

Evening Session, Aug. 14.

President Mitchell called the Alliance to order after which the following resolution was introduced and unanimously passed. That this State Alliance extend a rising vote of thanks to Bro. T. J. Oldham for his untiring energy and careful attention and hospitality in North Carolina style to every delegate and attendant on this session of our body; also that a vote of thanks be given to Mr. and Mrs. Shoffner and family for their kind attention and entertainment.

No further business appearing the brethren sang "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" after which the State Alliance was closed in due form to meet again at Headquarters on the second Tuesday of August, 1913, at noon.

H. E. THOMPSON, Secretary.

J. M. MITCHELL, President.



